

INTRODUCTION

The St. Michael's Conference is a tremendous undertaking. There is a great deal of planning involved in order to accommodate a band of young people across the country – not the least of which is airfare and travel arrangements. This brochure contains very important core information regarding the **General Itinerary, Payment, and Preparatory Timeline** for this year's Conference. **Please keep this brochure for future reference.**

GENERAL ITINERARY

This year's Conference will again be held at the Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford, Connecticut. It runs from **5:00 p.m. Sunday, August 2 to 11:00 a.m. Saturday, August 8.**

Last year we departed on Saturday to avoid a red-eye flight and it was a great success. We plan to do so again this year. We will depart from San Diego International Airport on Saturday morning, August 1, arriving at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, CT that same evening. We will stay the night at the downtown Hartford Hilton. We will attend Sunday morning Mass locally (or celebrate it in the hotel room), and arrive at the Conference Sunday afternoon.

The daily schedule of the Conference remains the same. Each day begins with Morning Prayer and Solemn High Mass. All meals are eaten together as a community. In between breakfast and lunch everyone attends morning classes. The afternoon offers free (nap) time. Solemn Evensong precedes dinner. And the evenings are filled with community games, discussion groups, and fellowship activities.

We will fly home the day the Conference ends, Saturday, August 8, and plan to arrive at San Diego International Airport sometime that evening.

We are grateful to Christine Lucas who has offered once again to serve as our Conference travel agent.

Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they were defeated and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.



Revelation 12:7-9 (RSV)

ST. MICHAEL'S CONFERENCE

St. John the Divine in his Revelation pictures the conflict between the Archangel Michael and the fallen angel called Satan. This is the continuing conflict between Christians and the very real power of evil. Real Christianity is symbolized by Michael. It is not a soft religion. It is quite the opposite - dangerous, challenging, exciting, and joyful.

St. Michael's Conference, Inc. is a not-for-profit religious conference. Founded in 1960, it is a group of young people and leaders who come together to form a community. Through worship, discussion, recreation, and relaxation, the community seeks both a clearer vision of God in Christ, and strength and power to fight evil and serve God. For most, it is such a joyful experience that they want it to continue, and many do continue by returning year after year. Michael is a good Patron Saint. He symbolizes a strong religion, the kind of religion where true joy is to be found.

ST. MICHAEL'S CONFERENCE 2009

AUGUST 2 — 8, 2009
WEST HARTFORD
CONNECTICUT



**GUIDELINES
FOR CONFEREES
FROM
ST. MICHAEL'S
BY-THE-SEA
CARLSBAD, CA**

PAYMENT

The total cost of this year's Conference per individual is roughly \$1000.00, (subject to the number of participants). This includes the \$525.00 Conference fee plus an estimated travel cost of \$475.00.

Conferees will be individually responsible for covering the total cost of the Conference fee: \$525.00. (Personal fund-raising through family and friends is encouraged.) The remaining balance of \$475.00 per individual *will be covered* through multiple group fundraising activities which conferees *are required* to participate in.

Please note: if additional monies are raised, a portion of the \$525.00 Conference fee itself may be refunded to each conferee upon return!

As always, further financial assistance is available for those who are unable to cover the \$525.00 amount. We do not want the cost of the Conference alone to keep anyone from attending.



We are grateful to Karen Gleason who has again volunteered to coordinate this year's fundraising activities.

PREPARATORY TIMELINE

Ascension Sunday, May 24:

Informational Meeting

This meeting takes place in the Library immediately following the 10:45 a.m. Mass. If you have already committed to this year's Conference, or if you are interested in attending, please consider this a mandatory meeting. (All parents of High School age youth are urged to attend with your child).

The Feast of Pentecost, Sunday, May 31:

First Bake Sale

Our First Bake Sale and fundraising kick-off will be held during all three Masses!

Trinity Sunday, June 7:

Registration Deadline

In order to secure spots at this year's Conference and make travel arrangements in a timely and cost-effective manner, St. Michael's by-the-Sea deadline for registration is **sooner** than the deadline given on the Conference Registration Form.

Due to Fr. Doran or Justin by Trinity Sunday are the \$400 registration fee¹, along with the completed **Conference Registration, Medical Release Form, Parental Consent Form, and Airline Ticket Contract.**

Sunday, July 12: Second Bake Sale

Held after both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Wednesday, July 15:

Balance Due of Conference Fee

Balance of \$125 due to Fr. Doran or Justin.

Sundays in June and July

Equal participation by all Conferees is required for Sunday fundraising throughout June and July. A sign-up calendar will be available beginning on Ascension Sunday, May 24.

¹ Please make checks payable to St. Michael's by-the-Sea noting St. Michael's Conference in the memo line.



CONCLUSION

Our participation in the St. Michael's Conference requires a great deal of sacrifice on the part of many people: conferees, parents, parishioners, church staff and clergy. In fact, most of those involved in this preparation do so without the benefit of participating in the Conference itself. However, the spiritual benefits and blessings that this Conference affords our Youth provide an infinite return on investment for our parish community in particular, and Christ's church in general.

If your child has attended the St. Michael's Conference in the past, then you know the profound impact this experience has had on their faith. If your child has not attended the St. Michael's Conference, I would encourage you to solicit the testimonies of those whose children have.

Fr. Doran will be attending this year's Conference as an assisting priest, where he will participate in the life of the community, teach some of the classes, and act as the primary travel chaperone to and from the Conference.

Further details about the St. Michael's Conference can be found at their website, www.saintmichaelsconference.com, as well as the Conference Registration brochures.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact Fr. Doran at 760.889.9279
curate@stmichaelsbythesea.org